#### **NEWS**

## FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Monday, January 26, 2004 6:30 a.m.

### FOR FURTHER INFORMATION

**CONTACT:** Rosanne Pack (302) 659-2210 (302) 222-6573

# SNOW CLOSES DELAWARE, COUNTY OFFICES MONDAY; DELDOT ADVISES RESTRICTED TRAVEL

#### Snow accumulations make travel hazardous

Governor Ruth Ann Minner on Monday morning announced that State of Delaware government offices would be closed for the day due to heavy snow and hazardous road conditions around the state. Essential state employees should report as normal.

Additionally, all government offices in Sussex, Kent and New Castle counties and the City of Wilmington are closed Jan. 26. Again, non-essential employees are ordered to stay home.

DelDOT advises that snow removal crews statewide are concentrating on primary roadways only early this morning. Primary roads include major arteries as I-95, I-495, SR 1, Route 202, Routes 13 and 113, as well as some state routes such as Routes 141, Route 8 and Route 16.

According to DelDOT spokesperson Michele Ackles, work will continue on clearing these main roads for the majority of the morning, as long as snow continues to fall. DelDOT operations advise that crews will not be moving to secondary and lesser traveled roads till mid-day at the earliest, perhaps later in the northern part of the state.

Ackles said, "Please be advised that with school districts, state offices and some businesses closed, if you do not have to travel this morning, please refrain from being on the roadways. The cooperation of the public will permit snow removal crews to have the best access possible to get the roadways clear and open. DelDOT will provide additional information on road conditions throughout the day."

Delaware Emergency Management Agency Director Jamie Turner said reports from DelDOT and Delaware State Police officials in each county and Wilmington indicate road conditions make driving extremely hazardous at this time. The public should restrict all unnecessary travel until roads are clear enough to allow safe travel.

The public is advised to monitor the State of Delaware web site, www.delaware.gov, Closings and Delays sub-page, or <a href="www.state.de.us/dema">www.state.de.us/dema</a>. In addition, monitor local broadcast media and print media web sites for updates.